

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 DPW-01 IO-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 RSR-01 OMB-01 /140 W  
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R 291000 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9343

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USDEL FRANCE

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 5190

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: POLISH AND HUNGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM

1. DURING MARCH, PARTICULARLY THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH, THE GROWING NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR INVESTIGATIONS OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS PROVIDED SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP AN INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE MODE OF OPERATION OF THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH DELEGATIONS ON THE ICCS. INCREASINGLY THE PATTERN SUGGEST AN INTENTION TO GUARD AGAINST ANY MEANINGFUL CRITICISM FROM THE COMMISSION OF THE DRV AND PRG. THE IMPACT ON THE ICCS INVESTIGATORY PROCESS AND RESPONSIBILITIES HAS BEEN DELETERIOUS, AND HAS WROUGHT SUBSTANTIAL FRUSTRATION ON CANDEL.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST, BY NO MEANS COMPLETE, OF INSTANCES OF POLISH AND HUNGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM IN THE ICCS. THE KHE SANH SAM-2 CASE IS A PARTICULARLY GLARING EXAMPLE; THE SA  
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HUYNH AND TONLE CHAM CASES ARE EQUALLY REVEALING.

A. MARCH 2- THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATIONS REFUSED TO CONCUR IN ANY INVESTIGATION OF THE US/ GVN COMPLAINT THAT SAM- 2 MISSILES HAD BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE VC/ NVA INTO THE KHE SANH AREA OF QUANG TRI PROVINCE.

B. MARCH 9 - THE ICCS PLENARY HAD TO FORWARD SEPARATE DELEGATION VIEWS ON THE SA HUYNH INCIDENT TO THE FPJMC RATHER THAN THE REPORT UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO BY REGION II. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATIONS REFUSED TO ALLOW THE UNANIMOUS REPORT TO GO FORWARD BECAUSE THE PRG/ DRV HAD REFUSED TO COOPERATE IN THE INVESTIGATION. ( NOTE: THE POLISH TEAM LEADER OF REGION II WAS REMOVED SHORTLY AFTER SUBMISSION OF THE UNANIMOUS TEAM REPORT TO ICCS SAIGON.)

C. MARCH 14 - WHEN THE PROVINCE CHIEF OF QUANG TIN PROVINCE ( ICCS REGION II) PROPOSED AN ICCS VISIT BY ROAD TO THE DISTRICT TOWNS OF TIEN PHUOC AND HAU DUC, THE HUNGARIANS REFUSED TO GO, STATING THAT THEY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REFUSE ALL SUCH INVITATIONS. THE POLES, CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS DID GO ON THE TRIP. OTHER SUCH CASES EMERGED IN SUBSEQUENT DAYS.

D. MARCH 15 - WHEN THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS DEPLOYED TO HONG NGU ( REGION VI) THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES AT THE LAST MINUTE REFUSED TO GO DESPITE AGREEING TO DO SO ON MARCH 13. AS OF MARCH 28 THEY HAD NOT YET DEPLOYED TO HONG NGU.

E. MARCH 18 - AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL NHA TRANG REPORTED THAT THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS IN ICCS REGION III HAVE ADOPTED THE UNFORTUNATE INVESTIGATORY TECHNIQUE OF ASSAULTING WITNESSES WITH BARRAGES OF QUESTIONS, OFTEN IRRELEVANT AND MEANINGLESS. THE WITNESSES ARE OFTEN AWED AND CONFUSED BY THE PROCESS AND THE INTERROGATOR WILL THEN ALLEGE THAT THE WITNESS IS UNRELIABLE AND HIS TESTIMONY MUST

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 5190

J. MARCH 23 - THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE TRI TON SUB- REGION TEAM WITHDREW FROM THE TEAM WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION OR CONSULTATION WITH THEIR CANADIAN AND INDONESIAN COLLEAGUES. ( FYI: THE REGION VII POLDEL CHIEF CONFIDED PRIVATELY THAT HE DISAPPROVED OF HIS ORDERS TO WITHDRAW HIS MEN, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD DO. THE HUNGARIANS RETURNED TO THE SITE MARCH 26.)

K. MARCH 24 - THE POLISH DELEGATION IN REGION III ( PLEIKU) ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE ICCS INVESTIGATIONS UNLESS A WRITTEN GUARANTEE OF SAFETY IS RECEIVED FROM ALL FPJMC PARTIES. SUCH A POLICY WOULD GIVE THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS AN EFFECTIVE VETO ON ANY INVESTIGATION.

L. MARCH 25 - AFTER A SERIES OF MEETINGS, REGION I ICCS ( HUE) FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE VINH HOA PHUONG ( CUA VIET) INCIDENT. IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES WERE BLATANTLY PARTIAL TO THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS, SEIZING ON ANY EVIDENCE EVEN REMOTELY SUPPORTIVE OF THE  
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VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS' CLAIM THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM GUNBOATS SHELLED VINH HOA PHUONG II HAMLET AND REMAINING IMPERVIOUS TO CONFLICTING EVIDENCE.

M. MARCH 25 - AN LOC VILLAGE, LAM DONG PROVINCE ( ICCS REGION IV) WAS MORTARED ON EVENING MARCH 25. FIFTEEN CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED, TEN REQUIRED HOSPITALIZATION ONE OF WHOM, A FOUR- YEAR- OLD BOY, IS NOT EXPECTED TO LIVE. THE BAO LOC ICCS TEAM DINING WITH US/ GVN ELEMENTS OF THE FPJMC IN BAO LOC, WHEN THE INCIDENT WAS REPORTED, WAS ASKED BY GVN TEAM CHIEF TO SEE THE VICTIMS IN THE PROVINCE HOSPITAL. CACDEL AND INDODEL IMMEDIATELY AGREED TO DO SO ON AN INFORMAL OBSERVATION BASIS, PENDING AUTHORIZATION OF AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION FROM REGION IV HEADQUARTERS AT PHAN THIET. POLDEL HUNGDEL SAID THEY NEEDED REGIONAL PERMISSION FOR ANY ACTION, AND RETURNED TO THEIR QUARTERS.

N. MARCH 26 - THE PLENARY CONSIDERED A US/ GVN REQUEST THAT THE ICCS INVESTIGATE THE RE- DISCOVERED SAM-2' S AT KHE SANH. POLDEL AND HUNGDEL REFUSED TO ORDER THE INVESTIGATION AND DECLINED TO GIVE AN EXPLANATION OF THEIR STAND, OTHER THAN STATING THEY MAINTAINED THEIR PREVIOUS POSITONS.

O. MARCH 28 - REQUESTED BY PHUOC TUY PROVINCE OFFICIALS TO INVESTIGATE RECENT FIGHTING IN DUV THANH DISTRICT, THE ICCS WAS PREVENTED FROM TAKING ACTION BECAUSE OF POLISH AND HUNGARIAN INSTRUCTIONS TO NOT TAKE PART IN ANY INVESTIGATION WHICH DID NOT RESULT FROM JMC ACTION. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN TEAM MEMBERS WERE REPORTED BY CONGEN BIEN HOA AS CHAFING UNDER THESE RESTRICTIONS, BUT THEIR STRICT ORDERS WERE TO NOT TAKE PART IN ANY FIELD TRIPS OR INVESTIGATIONS ARRANGED DIRECTLY BY THE GVN WITH THE ICCS.  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 29 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 13 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <18-Oct-2001 by smithrj>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980107  
**Subject:** ICCS: POLISH AND HUNGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM  
**TAGS:** MARR, VS  
**To:** EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BIEN HOA  
BUDAPEST  
DANANG  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

